

North Cascades National Park Service Complex

Backcountry Permits

North Cascades National Park Service Complex is moving to a new backcountry permit reservation system for 2022. This new program allows users to see real-time availability and secure designated sites through Recreation.gov. Walk-Up permits will still be offered on a first-come, first-serve basis.

| Early-Access Lottery | General On-Sale | Malk-Up |
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| The Early-Access Lottery assigns successful applicants an access timeslot; a specific date and time to create a reservation prior to the General On-Sale date. It does not guarantee availability. | The General On-Sale opens April 26, 2022. The Early-Access Lottery and General On-Sale account for approximately 60% of permits issued for the season. Walk-Up availability accounts for the remaining 40%. | Walk-Up permits are available on a first-come, first-served basis in person at the Wilderness Information Center May 20-October 8, 2022. |
| Step 1: Login to Recreation.gov and search for "North Cascades Backcountry Permits" to apply. Successful entries will be notified and awarded an Early-Access Period timeslot. Step 2: During their assigned timeslot, the individual will login to Recreation.gov to view real-time available inventory, and make up to one reservation. Step 3: After the reservation is complete, the trip leader must visit the Wilderness Information Center or a permitting office the day before or the day of the start of the trip to activate their reservation. | Step 1: Login to Recreation.gov and search for "North Cascades Backcountry Permits". Step 2: View campsite availability in real time and create an itinerary. After identifying a desired trip, complete the reservation. Step 3: After the reservation is complete, the trip leader must visit the Wilderness Information Center or a permitting office the day before or the day of the start of the trip to activate their reservation. | Step 1: Optional-before arriving at the park, visit Recreation.gov and search for "North Cascades Backcountry Permits". Click "check availability" to see what sites are still available. Step 2: On the day before or the day of, visit the Wilderness Information Center or a permitting office where a ranger can issue a permit based on availability Visitors should pre-plan alternative trips as first choices may not be available. |
| The Early-Access Lottery opens 7 am Pacific time (PT) March 3 and closes 9 pm PT March 15, 2022. Awardees are notified by email on March 18 with their assigned timeslot. The Early-Access Period lasts March 21-April 19. During that period there are six timeslots per day (7 AM, 9 AM, 11 AM, 1 PM, 3 PM, 5 PM PT). Once the applicant's assigned timeslot opens, they can make one reservation anytime before 9 pm PT April 19, 2022. | The General On-Sale is available starting 7 am PT April 26 for trips falling between May 27th and September 30. Reservations must be made at least two days in advance and can be refunded if they are canceled at least 3 days in advance of the trip start date. | Walk-Up permits are available up to one day before a desired trip start date. Individuals with flexible trip destinations have a better chance of obtaining a permit. There is a \$6 non-refundable transaction fee and an additional \$20 fee to obtain a walk-up permit. Credit/debit card only. |
| There is a \$6 non-refundable transaction fee and an additional \$20 |) fee to complete a permit reservation. Credit/debit card only. | For current information, please visit www.nps.gov/noca |